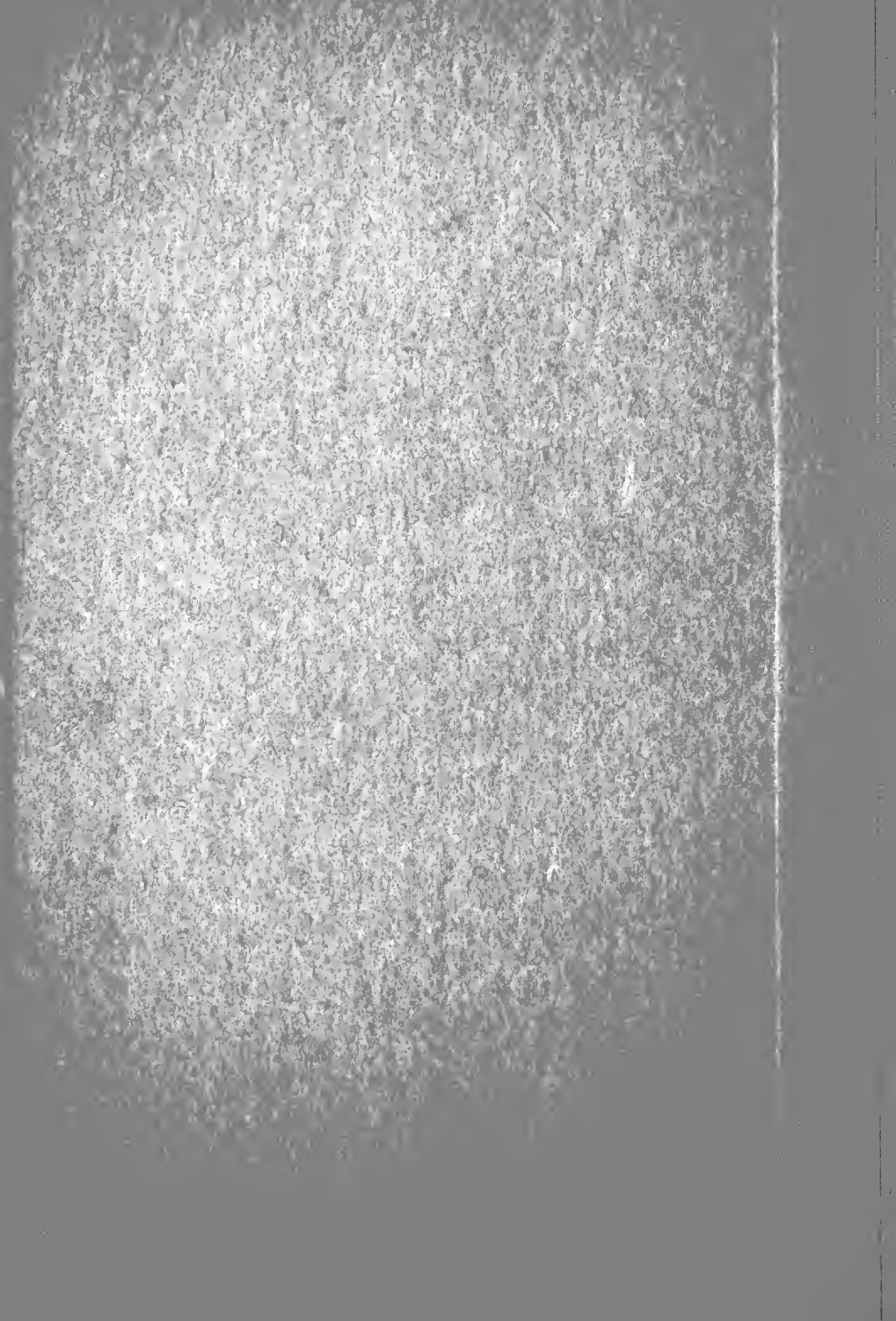


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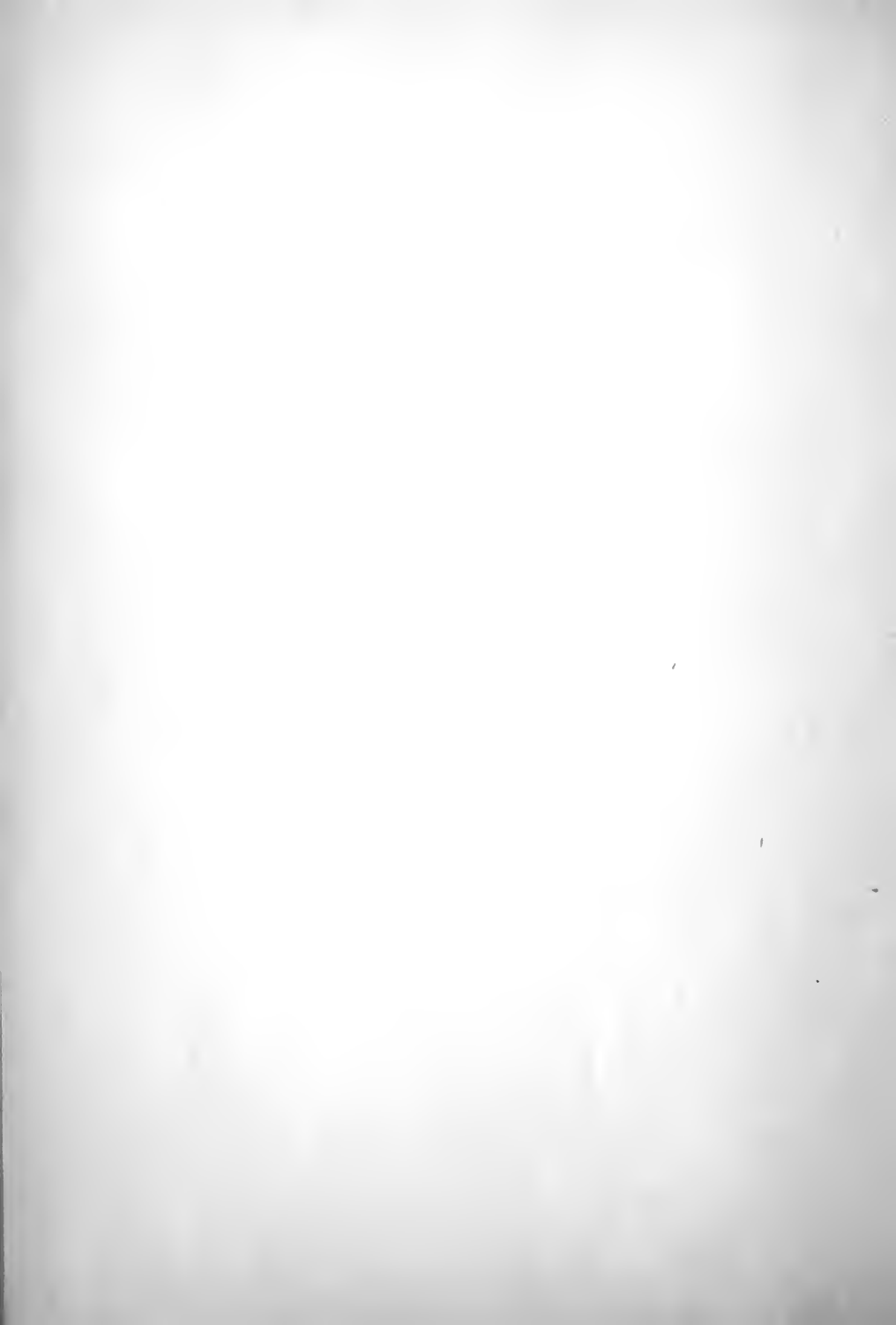


APV  
(BUTTEFIELD  
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## THE BUTTERFIELDS OF MIDDLESEX.

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By GEO. A. GORDON, A.M., Member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

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THE common spelling of the name in New England is Butterfield, and the same prevails usually throughout the United States; though instances are found of Botfield, of direct German extraction; and, occasionally, of Boterville, the French form. In England, the family date their arrival from Normandy in the twelfth century. Robert de Buteville<sup>2</sup> <sup>2k</sup> two fees in Bedfordshire in 1165 and likewise in Norfolk (Liber Niger). John de Buteville was possessed of the lordship of Cheddington, in Bucks, in 1316 (Palsgrave, Parl. Writs). The name Botevyle occurs in the Battle Abbey roll. The estate of Bouteville was near Carentum, in Normandy, a town at the mouth of the river Tante, where are yet to be seen old fortifications, a castle and a curious Norman church (The Norman People). A branch of the family settled at Church Stretton, Shropshire. The English pronunciation indicates a corruption of the German word Botefeld (Botz, a messenger, and felt, field, or clearing where the trees have been felled). Similar instances occur in Butterley, Buttermere, Butterwick, Butterworth in England, and perhaps Buterville in Ireland; the affix in each case denoting locality—ley meadow, mere pond, wick bay, worth enclosure—where the messenger dwelt. Or, the derivation may be from bōtfeld, which, among the Anglo-Saxons, was that portion of the manor, the timber of which was reserved for the repairs of the manor house, buildings, &c., and the mending of the fences. Such privileges were styled Haybote (from hūit, hedge, or the land enclosed by it, and botz, repair). The official charged with such repairs was styled the Hayward, whence the modern word: as also Heyward and Howard. Our word botcher, for a blundering repairer, is a survival of this same bote in common speech.

BENJAMIN<sup>1</sup> BUTTERFIELD, from whom the American family chiefly derive issue, was at Charlestown, in the Bay Colony, in 1638. He probably married in England and brought a little family with him. His name appears among the first town orders of Woburn, and, in 1643, he was made a Freeman. In 1645, we find his name on the Woburn tax list. In 1652, the inhabitants of Woburn petitioned for leave to explore the west side of the Concord river. The report was, "a very comfortable place to accommodate a company of God's people." In 1653, Benjamin Butterfield headed a petition of twenty-nine, including the petitioners of the preceding year, for a tract of land six miles square, "to begin at the Merrimaek river, at a neck of land next to Concord river," to run southerly on Concord river and westerly into the wild country. The spot was known to the natives as

Naamkeek.\* The Indian apostle, Rev. John Eliot, about the same time received a grant of "the Great Neck," lying between Pawtucket† falls on the Merrimack and the Massie falls on the Concord, as a reserve for the Christianized Indians. This tract was known as Wamesit. The six mile tract was occupied in 1654 by Butterfield and his associates, and in 1655 was incorporated as Chelmsford. The line between the Indians and the whites was run "on the east side of Butterfield's high way," and was marked by a ditch. On this highway Benjamin Butterfield pitched his farm and built his house somewhere within the limits of what is now ward iv., Lowell. In 1656, he is named as one of the citizens of Chelmsford, to whom the Gov. Dudley gave of 1,500 acres in Billerica was conveyed. In 1661 his wife died, and 3 June, 1663, he married, 2d. Hannah, the widow of Thomas Whittemore, of Cambridge. In 1666, Newfields, a tract of 241 acres of intervale, across Stony brook and extending up the Merrimack, was granted to Chelmsford. Of this, perhaps the best land in the growing town, Benjamin Butterfield obtained 42 acres, the largest share of any one person. In 1686, the Indian reservation, Wamesit, was purchased by the whites. Three of Butterfield's sons, Nathaniel, Samuel and Joseph, were among the grantees (Mdx. Deeds, x. 19). This territory, which had been occupied by Wonalancit and his tribe as a cornfield and fishing station, is now occupied by the manufactories of Lowell. The purchase included, also, 500 acres upon the north and east side of the Merrimack, of "Wilderness" land, a general term for the unsettled country outside incorporated limits. Nathaniel and Samuel Butterfield settled on the Wamesit lands, and Joseph in the wilderness, between Tyng's pond and the river.

#### SUMMARY.

1. BENJAMIN<sup>1</sup> BUTTERFIELD, born in England; inhab. of Charlestown, 1638; Woburn, 1640; Chelmsford, 1654. Died 2 March, 1687-8. His wife Ann died at Chelmsford, 19 May, 1661; he married 2nd, 3 June, 1663, Hannah Whittemore, widow of Thomas. Children:
  2. i. JONATHAN,<sup>2</sup> b. in England.
  - ii. MARY, b. in England; m. 15 Sept. 1652, Daniel Blogget. She d. 5 Sept. 1666.
  - iii. NATHANIEL, b. at Woburn, 14 Feb. 1642-3.
  - iv. SAMUEL, b. at Woburn, 17 May, 1647.
  - v. JOSEPH, b. at Woburn, 15 Aug. 1649.
2. JONATHAN<sup>2</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in England, and accompanied his parents in their emigration to New England, and dwelt with them at Charlestown, Woburn and Chelmsford. He married Mary, a daughter of William Dixon, of Cambridge, born 17 June, 1649-50. He died at Chelmsford, 3 April, 1673.

17 June 1673. Adm<sup>n</sup> on the estate of Jona. Butterfield, lately dec<sup>d</sup> at Chelmsford, is granted to his father, Benja<sup>r</sup> Butterfield, and his father-in-law, Wm Dixon, in behalf of y<sup>e</sup> children of y<sup>e</sup> said Jonathan. (Mdx. Court Records.)

An inventory of the estate of Jonathan Butterfield who deceased on the 3<sup>d</sup> of April 1673. Apprized by us &c. the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1673.

(Signed)  
Wm Dixon

THOMAS HINCHEMAN  
JOSEPH RICHARDSON  
(Mdx. Prob. Registry, lib. iv. fol. 120.)

\* Naamkeek, or Naamkeag, a fishing place, is cognate to Namoskeag (Manchester, N. H.), Naumkeag (Salem, Mass.), Nameag (New London, Ct.), Namasket (Middleboro' Mass.), Nama'auke (East Windsor, Ct.), and Namskeeket (Wellsfleet, Mass.).

† Paul, to make a head rise, and a waterfall, descriptive of the waterfall there.

He was one of the committee appointed to appraise the estate of Daniel Blodget, 18 April, 1672, and, as such, signed the appraisal in a plain, round hand, Jona: Butterfield. (Mdx. Court Records.)

Children:

6. i. JONATHAN.<sup>3</sup>
- ii. MARY, b. 1670; m. 1st, Abraham Watson; m. 2d, Samuel Whitmore. She d. 4 Nov. 1730.
7. iii. (?) JOSEPH.

3. NATHANIEL<sup>2</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Woburn, 14 February, 1642-3. Married 31 December, 1669, Deborah Underwood, a daughter of William and Remembrance Underwood. He was a husbandman and dwelt at Chelmsford, where his wife died 25 June, 1691.

10 January, 1709-10, he divided his real estate in the north part of Chelmsford, between his three sons, Benjamin, Samuel and Nathaniel, giving deeds to each. (Mdx. Deeds, xv. 159, 160, and xxxvi. 593.) An entry on the appraisal of the estate of his son, Benjamin, in December, 1719, states that he was then living, "76 years of age." Children:

- i. WILLIAM,<sup>3</sup> b. 5 Jan. 1686.
8. ii. BENJAMIN.
9. iii. SAMUEL.
10. iv. NATHANIEL. b. 29-1-1692
- v. JONATHAN, m. Mercy Richardson. Both were living in 1735.

4. SAMUEL<sup>2</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Woburn, 17 May, 1647, removed with his father to Chelmsford, where he remained till his death in 1714. He had a wife Mary. His will, signed 36 April, 1703, "Samuel Buterfeld, his mark," was written by Eliezer Browne, one of the witnesses, and probated 1 July, 1715. In it, he mentions his sons Samuel and Jonathan, and his daughters Mercy, Ann, Phebe and Deborah. It lies in the Middlesex Registry with the following certificate appended:

Middx County

This Will of Samnel Butterfield, late of Chelmsford in the county of Midd<sup>x</sup> dec<sup>d</sup>, contained in two sides of this sheet of paper was Exhib<sup>d</sup> for probate p<sup>r</sup> Samuel and Jonathan Butterfield sons of the s<sup>d</sup> Dec<sup>d</sup> & Ex<sup>rs</sup> in the same named & Jonathan Bowers made oath y<sup>t</sup> he together wth Nathaniel Blodgit (now dead) & Eliezer Brown (who now lives in Connecticut Colony) set to there hands as Witnesses in the Testator's presence & that he see him sign & seal & heard him publish the same to be his last will and Testament & that he was of sound mind & this Will is proved & approved & the admistracon thereof is Committed to the s<sup>d</sup> Samuel & Jonathan Butterfield Executors afore-said. Witness my hand and seal of office at Camb. July 1<sup>st</sup> 1715. Pr. FRA. FOX-CROFT Judge Prob for Midd<sup>x</sup>.

Children:

11. i. SAMUEL.<sup>3</sup>
- ii. MARY, m. 30 June, -1698, Samuel<sup>3</sup> Spalding (John,<sup>2</sup> Edward<sup>1</sup>): removed in 1706 to Canterbury, Conn., where she died in 1726. Six children, three born in Chelmsford and three in Canterbury.
- iii. ANN, m. (prob.) John Davis, son of the Chelmsford blacksmith.
- iv. PHEBE, m. ——— How. of Plainfield, Conn.
- v. DEBORAH, b. 29 Aug. 1687; m. Joseph<sup>3</sup> Cleveland (Josiah,<sup>2</sup> Moses<sup>1</sup>): removed, about 1706, to Canterbury, Conn.
12. vi. JONATHAN. C

5. JOSEPH<sup>2</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Woburn, 15 August, 1649: went to Chelmsford with his father's family. He married, 12 February, 1674, Lydia Ballard, daughter of Joseph, one of the first settlers of Andover. He died in 1720, as his estate was appraised on the 22d December, 1720, and inventoried on the same date. The following is filed with the inventory in the Middlesex Registry, viz.:

To the honoured Judge of probats for the County of Middlesex

Honoured Sir,

After my servis presented to your honour, these may certifie you, that through age and infirmities I am not able to come to Cambridg: I earnestly desire that dea. Joshua Fletcher may be put in Administrator upon the estate of my deceased husband, for he is an honest man and one that is capable of manageing such a work: which if your honour please to grant or allow of your honour will much oblige your humble saruant

Chelmsford September y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1728

LIDYA BUTTERFIELD.

(Endorsed)

Sept. 16 1728. At the desire of the Widow, within named, of Joseph Butterfield, only surviving son of said deceased, of Simon Tompson and Ephraim Waters, Husbands to two of Deceased's Daughters, Administration on y<sup>e</sup> said Deceased's Estate is granted to Joshua Fletcher of Chelmsford, yeoman. Joseph Butterfield of said Town Surety—£300 I. R. J. P.

Children:

13. i. JOSEPH.<sup>3</sup> b. 6 June, 1680.
14. ii. BENJAMIN.
- iii. TABITHA, b. 29 May, 1687; m. Ephraim Waters.
- iv. ISAAC. } b: 1 Oct. 1689; { d. 4 Nov. 1689.
15. v. JACOB. }
- vi. ANNA, m. Simon<sup>4</sup> Tompson (James,<sup>3</sup> Simon,<sup>2</sup> James<sup>1</sup>), Town Clerk of Chelmsford.

6. JONATHAN<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford. Married in Woburn, 20 March, 1693-4, Ruth, daughter of John and Abigail Wright. He was a husbandman at West Cambridge, near the Foot of the Rocks, now Arlington. 30 November, 1696, he witnessed a deed at Charlestown (Mdx. Deeds, x. 531). In February, 1706, he was one of a scouting party (Green's Groton in the Indian Wars). He died in 1744, as, on 18 June in that year, the widow Ruth and sons Jonathan, John and William sign the mother's bond as administratrix of the estate of Jonathan Butterfeild, late of Cambridge, deceased intestate. The widow died 1753-4. Children:

16. i. JONATHAN.<sup>4</sup> b. 1695. bapt. 1699.
- ii. MARY, b. 1697; bapt. 2 July, 1699; m. 25 Oct. 1716, Thomas Frost, son of Ephraim and Hepzibah. They dwelt at Menotomy, where she died 10 March, 1774.
17. iii. JOHN, b. 1699; bapt. 2 July, 1699.
- iv. ABIGAIL, b. 11 May, 1702; m. Joseph Wheeler.
- v. RUTH, b. 7 Sept. 1704; m. William Robbins.
- vi. JANE, b. 7 Aug. 1706; m. 20 July, 1729, George Cutter, son of Ger-shom and Mehitable (Abbot) Cutter. She d. 7 May, 1776.
- vii. LYDIA, bapt. 3 Dec. 1708.
18. viii. WILLIAM, bapt. 24 Sept. 1710.
- ix. PHEBE, bapt. 30 Aug. 1713; m. ——— Russell.
- x. DEBORAH, b. 1713; bapt. 3 June, 1716; m. Samuel Locke, son of Francis and Elizabeth (Winship) Locke of Cambridge. They had 14 children: She d. 7 Sept. 1769.

7. JOSEPH<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD, probably a son of Jonathan<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Dixon) Butterfield, married Elizabeth, daughter of Ezekiel and Mary (Bunker) Richardson, of Chelmsford. Children:
19. i. JOSEPH.<sup>4</sup>
  20. ii. JOHN.
  21. iii. JOSIAH.
8. BENJAMIN<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford, and dwelt there all his days. He had wife, Sarah, whom he left a widow at his death, 24 July, 1715. Children:
22. i. JOHN.<sup>4</sup>
  - ii. SARAH, b. 23 Sept. 1701; m. Zachariah Richardson of Chelmsford. 12 children.
  - iii. MARY, m. 17 Jan. 1737, Samuel Scarles of Dunstable.
  - iv. LYDIA.
  - v. ABIAH, b. 1715; m. 3 Feb. 1737, John Read of Westford.
9. SAMUEL<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford, where he married 7 December, 1703, Rachel, born 26 September, 1655, daughter of Dea. Andrew and Hannah (Jeffits) Spalding of Chelmsford. In 1704 he was granted the sum of £1. by the General Court of the Colony, for slaying an Indian. In 1705 he was captured by the Indians, and received shocking treatment. He survived and returned home. He was a tailor, and died in 1737. His will, made 24 October, 1734, and probated 26 December, 1737, is on file at the Middlesex registry. Children:
- i. ———.
  23. ii. EBENEZER.<sup>4</sup> b. 13 July. 1706.
  - iii. WILLIAM, b. 1718; m. Rebecca, dau. of Capt. Jos. Parker of Chelmsford, and settled in Litchfield, N. H.
  - iv. JONATHAN, b. 1721; had wife Susanna. In 1761 he was deer-reef of Dunstable.
  - v. MARY, b. 1722; m. 1742, David Fletcher of Westford.
  - vi. REBECCA, b. 1726.
  - vii. JOANNA, m. 1st, — Parker; 2d, Robert Butterfield (12. iv.).
  - viii. RACHEL.
  - ix. HANNAH.
10. NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford, where he married 18 January, 1697, Sarah, daughter of Lieut. William and Sarah (Richardson) Fletcher of Nottingham West. She was born 26 May, 1679. He died in 1749, leaving widow Alice and children:
24. i. NATHANIEL.<sup>4</sup>
  - ii. ESTHER, m. Joseph Moores.
  - iii. LYDIA, m. — Foster.
11. SAMUEL<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Samuel*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford. Married Tabitha Butterfield, 7 May, 1730. He died in 1742, leaving a widow, Tabitha, and an adopted son, David (12. ii.), son of his brother Jonathan. His will dated 23 January, 1741-2, and probated 5 April, 1742, is on file at the Middlesex Registry.
12. JONATHAN<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Samuel*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford; had wife Elizabeth, who died early, leaving one child:
- i. ELIZABETH, m. Adam Gould.

He married 2d, Elizabeth, a daughter of Thomas and — Chamberlain of Chelmsford, who survived him. He was an hus-

bandman. His will, signed "Buterfeild," made 10 July, 1728, was probated 7 August, 1738. Children:

25. ii. DAVID,<sup>4</sup> b. 1712.
26. iii. JONATHAN.
27. iv. ROBERT, b. 1716.
- v. SAMUEL, of Westford, where he d. unm. in 1764.
- vi. SARAH, m. 16 Oct. 1744; Thomas Danforth of Billerica.
- vii. MARY, m. — Perham.

13. Lieut. JOSEPH<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford, 6 June, 1680. He married Sarah, daughter of Ezekiel Fletcher.

On the 27th of November, 1711, in company with a neighbor, Joseph Perham, he purchased the Scarlett farm on the east side of the Merrimack River, next the Dracut Line, now within the limits of Tyngsboro'. This was a domain of 1000 acres, to which he at once removed, erected a stockaded house, and dwelt there until his death in 1757. The old homestead is still in the possession of his descendants. More than thirty children have been born on it, while six generations of Butterfields have dwelt there. His will, made 20 September, 1745, provided that his wife should be executrix, but at the probate of the will, which was presented 26 May, 1757, we find this: "2 Oct. 1759, Lieut. Varnum, witness to the will sworn, the other witnesses being dec<sup>d</sup>; the exc<sup>x</sup> dyed before the testator. S. Danforth, J. Pro." Children:

- i. BENJAMIN,<sup>4</sup> d. unm.; a soldier at Cape Breton, 1745.
28. ii. JOSEPH, b. 1719.
29. iii. REUBEN, b. 1727.
- iv. A daughter, m. — Small, and dwelt in Tyngsboro'.
- v. DEBORAH, m. — Moore of Merrimack, N. H.
- vi. SARAH, m. — Coburn.
- vii. HANNAH, m. 1742, Edward Coburn of Pelham.

14. BENJAMIN<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in that part of Chelmsford, now Tyngsboro', 1680-85. He had a wife, Elizabeth. They dwelt at, or near, Frances hill, now Westford, where he died in 1714-15. Children:

30. i. BENJAMIN,<sup>4</sup> b. —
31. ii. WILLIAM, b. 1705.
- iii. ELIZABETH, m. 28 Oct. 1728, Samuel Adams of Westford.
- iv. ESTHER, b. 19 March, 1709; m. 6 Dec. 1731, Benjamin Perham of Sutton (Ancestry of Gov. Perham of Maine).
- v. MARY, b. 1712.
- vi. DEBORAH, b. 1714; m. 9 Dec. 1740, James Robbins of Grafton.

15. JACOB<sup>3</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford, 10 October, 1689, a twin with his brother Isaac, who lived but a few days. Jacob had a wife, Phebe, who, left his widow, married 2d, James Dutton. He died in 1728. Children:

- i. DINAH,<sup>4</sup> b. 1712.
- ii. ZACHARIAH, b. 1715; a cooper in Westford 1738.
- iii. AARON, b. 1720.
- iv. JOANNA, b. 1722.
- v. JACOB, b. 1724; non compos.

16. JONATHAN<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford, 1695. Baptized in Cambridge in 1699.

Married in Lexington, January, 1721, Rachel, daughter of John and Rachel (Shepard) Stone of Lexington. Rachel was born 6 June, 1697. They settled in (South) Bridgewater, where he died in 1769. They had no children. In his will he gave a tankard to the Bridgewater church, and the bulk of his estate to his grandniece, Rachel Leonard, daughter of Simon and Ann (Smith) Leonard.

17. JOHN<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan*,<sup>3</sup> *Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Cambridge, where he was baptized 2 July, 1709. He married, 1 March, 1725-6; Mary (Grant) Hill, widow of Abraham Hill. They dwelt in Cambridge, where he was a shoemaker. He died childless in 1749, and his widow married 2d, 4 January, 1750, Abraham Watson, son of Abraham and Mary (Butterfield (2.ii.) Watson of Cambridge. Watson died 7 October, 1775; and Mary, a third time widowed, in March, 1789.
18. WILLIAM<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan*,<sup>3</sup> *Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Cambridge, where he was baptized 24 September, 1710. He married, 12 December, 1733, Sarah Robbins, daughter of Nathaniel and Susanna (Chandler) Robbins. She was born in 1714, and died in 1739. Children:
  - i. MARY,<sup>5</sup> b. 15 Sept. 1734.
  - ii. JONATHAN, bap. 21 March. 1735-6.
  - iii. MARY, bap. 5 February, 1737-8.

These three died in infancy. In May, 1740, he married 2d, Mehitable Chamberlain, with whom he lived twenty years, till his death in August, 1760. His widow became, in 1770, the second wife of Samuel Locke, whose first wife had been Mr. Butterfield's sister, Deborah (6.x.). All dwelt at Menotomy, near Foot of Rocks. Children:

- iv. SARAH,<sup>5</sup> b. 31 May, 1741; d. 24 June, 1771.
  - v. WILLIAM, b. 6 March, 1743.
  - vi. JONATHAN, b. 27 Jan. 1745; m. 4 Aug. 1772, Mary Dixon, and dwelt at Charlestown, where he died in 1775. 2 children.
  - vii. JOHN, b. 11 Jan. 1747.
  - viii. SAMUEL, b. 15 April, 1750; m. 14 July, 1774, Elizabeth Bemis.
  - ix. SARAH, b. 16 Feb. 1752.
  - x. MARY, b. 25 Aug. 1754.
  - xi. ABEL, b. 13 Feb. 1757.
  - xii. STEPHEN, b. 30 Dec. 1759.
19. JOSEPH<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> *Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford (west part). He married Dorothy, eldest daughter of Gershom and Hannah Heald of Concord. They dwelt in Westford, where his name appears on the earliest tax list. He died in 1741, leaving widow and six children. The eldest son came of age in 1749, when the widow petitioned the Court as follows:

Wesford, Dec. ye 8<sup>th</sup> 1749.

To the Honourable Samuel Danford, Esq., Judge of the Probate for the County of Middlesex, the following petition humbly shoeth Dorathy Butterfield widow, was wife to Joseph Butterfield lat of Westford Deceased, he leving your Petitioner with three akers of land and six Children, the elder is Eleazer Butterfield, being about twenty-one years old hannah Butterfield being about twenty years old, martha Butterfield being about 18 year old Joseph Butterfield being about 16 yers old, Ebenezer Butterfield being about 13 years old and Dorothy Butterfield being about 10 years old Your Petitioner Humbly Prayeth that you wold be plesed to grant that Lifenant Jabeese Keep of s<sup>d</sup>

Westford be guardian for Ebenezer Butterfield and Dorothy Butterfield. Your Petitioner humbly Prays that the land be settled on my son Elezer Butterfield your petitioner has given my interest in said lands to my children and is in duty bound shall ever Prayes.

hear  
Dorothy + Butterfield.  
mark

#### Children:

- i. ELIAZAR,<sup>5</sup> b. 1727; m. 21 Dec. 1749, Mary Wright. They settled in Townsend.
  - ii. HANNAH, b. 1729.
  - iii. MARTHA, b. 1731; m. a Cleveland, and went to Canterbury, Conn.
  - iv. JOSEPH, b. 1733; became blacksmith at Groton; m. 26 Aug. 1755, Susanna Adams.
  - v. EBENEZER, b. 1735.
  - vi. DOROTHY, b. 1739; m. Jonathan Fish, and went to Canterbury, Conn.
20. JOHN<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Jonathan,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was an early settler in Westford, where he had a wife Mary, and children:
- i. MARY,<sup>5</sup> b. 1728.
  - ii. THOMAS, b. 1730-1.
  - iii. CHARLES, b. 1735.
  - iv. SARAH, b. 1737.
21. JOSIAH<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Jonathan,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford; married in 1737 Hannah Farnsworth, of Harvard. They dwelt on Frances hill in Westford. Children:
- i. JOSIAH,<sup>5</sup> b. 1738; soldier in Capt. Lawrence's Company, Nichols's regiment, 1758.
  - ii. SIMEON, b. 1740.
22. JOHN<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin,<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford and had wife Anna. In Jan. 1728-9, he purchased a large portion of the Brenton farm in Naticook; 24 March, 1763, he divided his Chelmsford lands between his sons, reserving life interest. As, in 1766, the sons sold a large part of this estate, now the most valuable part of the city of Lowell, to Thomas Fletcher (Mdx. Deeds, lxx. 478), we judge the father must have been dead. Children:
- i. EPHRAIM,<sup>5</sup> m. 10 March, 1732, Elizabeth Davis of Littleton; dwelt in Westford and had: 1, *Ephraim*, b. 1734, settled at Farmington, Me.; 2, *Isaac*, who settled at Wilton, Me.; 3, *Abraham*, who settled on the Kennebec; and 4, *Rebecca*, who married James Gordon, of Wilton, Me.
  - ii. BENJAMIN.
23. EBENEZER<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Samuel,<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford, 13 July, 1706, where he had wife Sarah, and where four of his children were born. In 1744, he went to Dunstable. About 1750 his wife died. Children:
- i. EBENEZER,<sup>5</sup> b. 26 Jan. 1732; m. 1760, Elizabeth Emery; had five children in Dunstable. In 1790, he removed to Farmington with his family: He died there 2 April, 1821. A soldier of the Revolution.
  - ii. SAMUEL, b. 24 Feb. 1738; m. 12 Nov. 1761, Hannah Chandler, dau. of Moses and Dorothy (Marble) Chandler of Westford, where she was born, 27 Aug. 1742. Seven children were born to them in Dunstable. In 1781, he removed his family to Farmington, Me., of which he was one of the proprietors. He continued a citizen of marked prominence till his death, 29 July, 1803. Five more children were born to them in Farmington.
  - iii. LEONARD, b. 17 Nov. 1740; was twice married and had a family of six children; was a leading military man in Dunstable, and became



captain. His descendants are in Dunstable to-day. He died 17 Nov. 1800.

- iv. JONAS, b. 12 Sep. 1742; wife Esther. In 1776 he was corporal of the "training band," and served two years in the Revolutionary army. In 1781 he went to Farmington, Me., with his wife and four children, and settled on one of the most valuable farms on the Sandy river, where he died, 22 June, 1826.
- v. SARAH, b. 23 June, 1746.
- vi. MARY, b. 3 Oct. 1748; m. 1st, Peter Parker, and went with him to Farmington, Me. On his decease, she m. 2d, John French Woods, and lived to be 96 years of age, dying 16 Oct. 1844.

Mr. Butterfield married 2d, Alice ———, and had by her three more children. He and his wife signed the Church covenant in Dunstable in 1757. His sons were notable for their military careers, and, after the restoration of peace, for their successful emigration to new lands. Children:

- vii. JESSE,<sup>5</sup> b. 23 April, 1752; was in the battle of Bunker Hill, a member of Capt. Cummings's Continentals, and a tried and true soldier of the Revolution. In 1780, he married Lydia, dau. of Josiah and Jemima Blodget, and, at the close of the war, they went with two young children to Farmington, Me., where they prospered. He died 6 February, 1842, aged 90.
- viii. RACHEL, b. 8 October, 1754.
- ix. PHILIP, b. 8 October, 1757; also a continental soldier; was twice married and settled at Wilton, Me. He had wife Mary and eight children.

24. NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Nathaniel,<sup>3</sup> Nathaniel,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford; married and had two sons, Nathaniel<sup>5</sup> and Elijah,<sup>5</sup> the latter of whom deceased in early manhood. He was a soldier in the French War, and died on the Crown Point expedition, in 1758.

25. DAVID<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan,<sup>3</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford in 1712. In 1724, he was adopted by his uncle Samuel (9) who was childless, and in 1742 inherited his whole estate. He married Kezia, who, with his adopted mother, Tabitha, were widows on the estate at his decease in 1764. Children:

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> b. 1740-50.
- ii. KEZIA, m. Benjamin Shed of Billerica, who died 19 Dec. 1760, and she m. 2d, in 1765, David Stickney, and removed to Grafton, Vt.
- iii. JEAN.
- iv. ESTHER.
- v. SARAH, m. Jacob Manning of Billerica.
- vi. ———, m. Dennis McLane.

26. JONATHAN<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan,<sup>3</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford and settled in Westford, at Millstone hill. Was a soldier in the French War, serving from 1755 to 1761, in which year he was Captain. He signed his will 22 Nov. 1757, like his father, "Buterfeild," and left his estate in equal divisions to his three sons. Children:

- i. JONATHAN,<sup>5</sup> perhaps went to Pepperell, where had wife Lydia, and children Mary, Rachel and Sybil.
- ii. REUBEN.
- iii. SAMUEL.

27. ROBERT<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Jonathan,<sup>3</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Chelmsford, in 1716. Married 7 January, 1744-5, Mehitable Boynton, by whom he had four children:

- i. MENTABLE, b. 1745; d. young.
- ii. ROBERT, b. 1747.
- iii. JOEL, b. 1749; d. young.
- iv. ELIZABETH, b. 1752.

His wife died in 1752, and he married the next winter, 24 Feb 1752-3, Joanna Parker, a widow, and daughter (51) of Samuel Butterfield, the tailor. Robert was a sergeant in the French War, and died at Lake George, 23 October, 1756. Child:

- v. JAMES, b. 1755.

28. Capt. JOSEPH<sup>1</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Joseph,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in what is now Tyngsboro' in 1719. He grew up in what were the palmy days of colonial life. The savages were gone, the bear and the deer were plenty. The farms were fertile and crops abundant. No political storm disturbed the serenity of the frontier. Money was scarce, the churches and the schools poor, but game and fish were plenty. The neighbors Perhams, Richardsons, Coburns, Varnums, Fletchers and Parkers were of a merry, festive character. Families were large and healthy, good cheer was abundant, and, though their lives were plain, their happiness was substantial. Capt. Joseph Butterfield married Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. William and Elizabeth (Coburn) Richardson, of Dracut, where she was born 27 July, 1724. Their homestead in Tyngsboro' is now the "town farm." He died 4 April, 1786; and his widow, 26 February, 1808. Children:

- i. ASA,<sup>5</sup> b. 1759; m. Abiah dau. of Timothy Coburn of Dracut; had a family of four sons and one daughter, whose descendants are in Tyngsboro', or the vicinity. Capt. Asa died, a very old man, 2 March, 1853.
- ii. SARAH, m. 12 Dec. 1793, Ebenezer Varnum.
- iii. RACHEL, m. 12 Dec. 1771, Bradley Varnum.
- iv. MERCY, m. 1st, Elijah Fletcher, 2d, Isaac Pike.
- v. ELIZABETH, m. David Cummings.

29. REUBEN<sup>1</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Joseph,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Tyngsboro' in Oct. 1727, and was the youngest of his father's family. He was a suckling child till into his ninth year, and grew to be broad-shouldered and of great strength. He was the champion athlete of his settlement, and could leap twelve feet. He married, in 1745, Mary Richardson, b. 18 April, 1728, a sister of his brother Joseph's wife. He was early in the Revolution of 1775-83, with his sons, and soon was a captain. He was a participant in most of the engagements of the Northern army. After the war, he returned to Tyngsboro' and spent the remainder of a long life on his farm, where he died 22 February, 1816. Children:

- i. MARY,<sup>5</sup> b. 6 Jan. 1746; m. Abiel Coburn, had seven children, and died 1 Feb. 1840.
- ii. REUBEN, b. 30 May, 1749; a member of Capt. Bancroft's company at Bunker Hill; subsequently a sergeant, and killed at White Plains, 18 Oct. 1776.
- iii. LEVI, b. in 1751; d. in infancy.
- iv. LEVI, b. 20 Dec. 1753; a member of Bancroft's Company, Bridge's regiment, 1775; afterwards a seaman, and engaged in privateering, in which he was taken prisoner and carried to England. On his way home, he died at sea.
- v. JOSEPH, b. 20 May, 1756; m. Elizabeth Bancroft, went to Milford, Me., and died there 15 May, 1787. No children.

- vi. SARAH, b. 8 Jan. 1759; m. William Sherburne of Pelham, where she d. 23 Oct. 1833.
  - vii. JAMES, b. 22 June, 1762; m. 27 Dec. 1787, Abigail Wilson, and spent his life on the "Homestead," where he d. 28 Nov. 1836. Six children.
  - viii. ABNER-RICHARDSON, b. 24 July, 1764; m. 23 Oct. 1791, Hepzibah Buttrick, and d. 6 March, 1851. Nine children.
  - ix. DEBORAH, b. 7 May, 1767; m. 14 April, 1791, Reuben Richardson of Dracut. She d. Dec. 1825. Eight children.
  - x. BENJAMIN, b. 16 Aug. 1770; m. Eliza, dau. of Jabesh Coburn of Dracut. He d. November, 1853. Four children.
  - xi. WILLIAM, b. 7 May, 1775; m. in 1800, Rebecca Queen, of Tyngsboro', where they dwelt till his death, 19 July, 1849. No children.
30. BENJAMIN<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> *Joseph*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford, dwelt in Westford, had wife Kezia, was an ensign in Choate's regiment at the siege of Louisburg, 1745, and died in 1747. Children:
- i. KETH,<sup>5</sup> b. 1724; m. 4 April, 1749, Aaron Chandler.
  - ii. BENJAMIN, b. 1726; husbandman; m. 26 Sept. 1748, Susanna Spalding, dau. of Jacob, of Chelmsford. They removed to Lunenburg, and ultimately to Brattleboro', Vt.
  - iii. JOHN, b. 1728; housewright; m. 2 Oct. 1750, Martha Trull, removed in 1756 to Narragansett No. 6 (Templeton), in 1759 to Groton, in 1761 to Harvard, and in 1764 to Shirley. Had: 1, *Benjamin*, b. 29 March, 1751; 2, *John*, b. 28 July, 1753; 3, *Abel*, b. 5 Feb. 1756, whose arm was torn off in a cider mill, 9 Sept. 1763; 4, *Henry*, b. 14 March, 1759; 5, *Kezia*, b. 28 Aug. 1761; and 6, *Martha*, b. 14 April, 1764.
  - iv. TIMOTHY, b. 1730.
  - v. KEZIA, b. 1733; m. 28 June, 1755, Josiah Nutting.
  - vi. MARY, b. 1735; m. 10 April, 1755, Lemuel Perham, of Dunstable. Six children.
  - vii. ABEL, b. 1737; d. 1745.
  - viii. JONAS, b. 1740.
  - ix. ISAAC, b. 1742; m. 3 Dec. 1772, Ruth Spalding, dau. of Dea. Andrew and Mehitable (Chandler) Spalding of Chelmsford.
  - x. JAMES, b. 1744.
31. WILLIAM<sup>4</sup> BUTTERFIELD (*Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> *Joseph*,<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Chelmsford in 1705. Married Bathsheba Shepard, daughter of Abraham, of Concord. They dwelt at Frances hill, Westford, where his name appears on the first tax list, 1730. At the earliest town meeting, 1730, he was elected hog-reeve. He died in Westford, in 1785, and his widow in 1793. Children:
- i. REBECCA,<sup>5</sup> b. 1729; m. 1 Nov. 1753, Eben Ball of Townsend.
  - ii. LUCY, b. 1731; m. 11 Sept. 1753, Jacob Wright, Jr.
  - iii. WILLIAM, b. 1734; d. s. p., 1793.
  - iv. HANNAH, b. 1737; m. Lemuel Potts of Townsend.
  - v. PETER, b. 1739; soldier in the French war 1757, and in the Revolution 1775-83; settled in Townsend, where and in Boston descendants have been merchants.
  - vi. ABRAHAM, b. 1741; a soldier in the French War, and died at Crown Point, N. Y., 24 Sept. 1760.
  - vii. OLIVE, b. 1743; d. 24 Jan. 1749-50.
  - viii. SAMUEL, b. 1745.
  - ix. BATHSHEBA, m. ——— Lawrence.

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